

### **Written Testimony of Mark Clark, Executive Director, Houston Police Officers' Union**

Chairman Huffman and members of the Texas Senate State Affairs Committee, please accept my brief written testimony on SB 4.

We are neutral on the bill as filed; however, as the sole and exclusive representative of all Houston police officers in our state's largest city, we want to encourage the committee, as they lay out SB 4, to help working street officers in Houston by making sure the following provisions are included in this legislation:

- We have no desire for our Houston police officers to be immigration enforcers. We have no desire to stop and question any person about their immigration status without reasonable suspicion of another offense.

- We oppose any policy that would prohibit a Houston police officer from contacting Immigration enforcement agents if the officer has reason to believe that a suspect they are dealing with had previously been deported for being in the United States of America illegally or that person is being lawfully detained.

- Require our officers to fully cooperate with Immigration enforcement agents when available and requested to assist with lawful matters.

- Require our jails to fully cooperate with requests from Immigration enforcement agents when a person is arrested for an offense or a detainer is requested, but do not financially penalize any department unless the department intentionally and knowingly refuses to cooperate.

I am available to you and the committee to further explain our requests regarding the needed language in SB4.